(ix) Apportionment of project cost among various beneficiaries.

(x) Excessive burden on account of Net Present Vaiue (NPV) with respect to forest lands.

(c) to (e) No Sir. According to the guidelines of the Government of India projects upto 100 MW can be developed through the Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) and by an large the States have been resorting to this route for projects upto 100 MW.

Policy for allocation of captive coal blocks

86. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated a new policy for allocating. captive coal blocks for power projects and States utilities will be required to come forward with competitive bidding initiatives for large quantities of *power,* either on their own or in groups, as is the case with the Ultra-Mega Power Projects:

(b) if so, whether Government are working towards a plan where each State may have two to four Ultra-Mega Power Plants;

(c) if so, the concrete steps Government propose to take in this regard; and

(d) the amount to be spent on each mega power project?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHR! SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) Ministry of Power has formulated guidelines for facilitating allocation of coal linkage and captive coal blocks to the power projects.

(b) to (d) Presently, there is no policy to set up 2-4 Ultra-Mega Power Plants, (UMPP) (4000 MW capacity) in each State. The average investment required for setting up an UMPP is estimated to be around Rs. 16,000 to Rs 18,000 crores. Each ultra mega project is expected to supply power to many States

Rural electrification targets

87. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the targets fixed for rural electrification during Ninth and Tenth Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether these have been fulfilled and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether these rural electrification projects were undertaken by Government agencies and the work was allotted to private bodies; and

(d) what are the projections in the Eleventh Five Year Plan period, along with the annual targets?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) As per Ninth Five Year Plan documents an overall target for electrification of 30,000 villages had been set. During the plan, 13409 villages were electrified.

Out of 80,000 uneiectrified villages estimated at that time, the Tenth Plan proposed to electrify 62,000 villages through grid supply. During the Plan 38,868 villages have been electrified uptil 19.2.2007.

The progress of village electrification during Ninth and Tenth Plan was not up to the desired level mainly due to following reasons:

- Earlier schemes like Minimum Needs Programme and Prime Minister's Grameen Rozgar Yojana provided for assistance under the State sector as additional Central assistance with the States allowed to choose the pace and direction of rural electrification. The funds had to be released to the States and in turn to the implementing agencies and in many cases the funds would not reach in time.
- The village electrification was left to the State Electricity Boards, which were in bad financial health and not in a position to provide sufficient funds.
- The programme was not implemented on a top priority basis in a time frame.
- In the earlier schemes, the revenue sustainability of the additional electrification infrastructure was neglected and the SEBs were reluctant to take rural electrification as it would lead to more losses.

- The extent of involvement of the local community was left to the State.
- Under the earlier schemes, the task of maintenance of rural electricity infrastructure was with the State Utilities which did not have the necessary manpower in the rural areas; as a result substantial infrastructure became useless.

(c) Under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana assistance of major Central Public Sector Undertakings in the power sector, namely National Thermal Power Corporation, POWERGRID, National Hydro-electric Power Corporation & Damodar Valley Corporation has been offered to States. In 134 districts presently, CPSUs have been allocated rural electrification work and works in rest of the districts are to be executed by State power utilities/discoms. The State Power Utilities and CPSUs, under domestic competitive bidding have awarded the turn-key contracts for execution of works against sanctioned projects to the successful bidders.

(d) 65,000 villages are targeted for electrification under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana during Eleventh Plan, For 2007-08, it is targeted to electrify 20,000 unelectrified villages and the balance 45,000 in 2008-09.

Investments in power sector

88. SHRI T.R. ZELIANG: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of investment in Public, Private and Central sector made in power sector in the different parts of the country, State-wise during the last three years; and

(b) if not. the reasons therefor"?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) The details of expenditure incurred by Central Power Sector Undertakings in the power sector during the last three years is at Statement-I *(See* below) Expenditure incurred by States/Union Territories in the power sector is at Statement -II *(See* below/ Private Sector expenditure in the power sector is not being maintained by the Central Electricity Authority.

(b) Does not arise.